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FRIDAY, MAY 20, 2011

Changing lanes

Minister not sold on mid-pen highway
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Diving in

Sherkston Scuba opens
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Good hosts

Local families opening doors to visitors
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Gridiron gang

CFLers inspire Niagara Falls students
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IMPORT NEWS



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■ **WELDER:** Headed to nationals

Dressel has a hot hand

VICTORIA GRAY
InPort News Staff

WELLAND — A Port Colborne High School student is carrying a torch for gold.

See **WELDER** | page 2

See Inside:
INSERTS
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■ **ALL FREE:** Nazareth, Finger Eleven, Helix to headline; Flavours lineup announced as well



MARYANNE FIRTH/Staff Photo

The entertainment lineups for Flavours of Niagara Food, Wine and Music Festival, and for Canal Days Marine Heritage Festival were announced last week. Pictured from left at the announcement are Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badaway, community services manager Gary Makins, special events co-ordinator Allaina Kane, vendor enhancement co-ordinator Bryan Theal and special events co-ordinator Gina Murdoch.

Rockin' Canal Days

MARYANNE FIRTH
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Whether it's classic rock, jazz, or catchy dance hits that float your boat, you'll find what your ears are craving in Port Colborne this summer.

And it's all free.

The entertainment line-ups for the lakeside city's two major events — Flavours of Niagara Food, Wine and Music Festival, and Canal Days Marine Heritage Festival — were announced last week at West Harbour Restaurant Bar & Grill.

See **FESTIVALS** | page 2



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■ WELDER

Craft a family tradition

FROM PAGE 1

Daniel Dressel, an 11th-grader in the welding skills major program, won first place at the provincial skills competition in Waterloo at RIM Park on May 3. Now he's moving on to the national competition in Quebec City, May 26-June 1.

The 16-year-old has a passion for his craft.

"I find it relaxing and it feels good to know that you made something," he said. "It's also nice to follow in my family's foot steps."

Dressel's great-grandfather started Dressel Welding Supply Inc. and passed the company down to his son. Once he graduates, Dressel hopes to become part of that tradition, but first he has to practise for nationals.

Niagara College has offered to help train him. Vic Barker, a tech teacher at Port Colborne High School, said he and Dressel spent about 250 hours practising for the provincials, but he had never seen a better welder.

"He makes me nervous because he is so calm," he said. "He's so relaxed, the most relaxed welder I have seen in the 20 years I've been doing this."

Dressel has been working with his grandfather since he was 10 years old. He said welding is not complicated, but he learns new things from everyone he welds with and everyone is very supportive.

The national competition has two, six-hour days in which contestants produce two different projects with



Daniel Dressel, a 16-year-old Grade 11 student at Port Colborne High School, won first place at the Provincial Skills Competition for welding. He is moving on to the national competition May 30 in Quebec City.

provided blueprints to be graded out of 500.

Port Colborne High School students have placed in the top three for three years at

the local skills competition but have never gone this far.

"I'm hoping to win, that's what I'm going there to do," Dressel said.

VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo

Adds his teacher: "We aren't going to lose, we've put too much time into it. We're confident, but we're not cocky."

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■ FESTIVALS

Varying musical tastes being accounted for

FROM PAGE 1

Residents and tourists can expect to see "top-notch acts" take the stage throughout both events, said Mayor Vance Badaway shortly before the lineups were released.

Local band Jonesy will kick off Flavours of Niagara on Friday, July 1, with a mix of classic songs, modern anthems and dance hits that will keep the crowd at L.H. Knoll Lakeview Park moving.

On the evening of Saturday, July 2, Niagara favourite More Bad News and the Horns from Hell will take to the stage, sharing classic rock and jazz sounds. While the day will feature local rock band Daylight for Deadeyes also play.

Rounding out the Flavours schedule on Sunday, July 3, is Canada's First Man of the Blues, Steve Burnsides with the Marquis.

Port Colborne's signature event, Canal Days, will go off to a rocking start Friday, July 1, with performances by Canadian heavy metal band Helix and Scottish hard rock band Nazareth.

The night of Saturday, July 30, will bring Canadian rock band Bleeker Ridge and indie rockers Whale

Tooth to the stage, followed by two area-winning hit-makers Finger Eleven.

The stage will be filled with local artists on Sunday, July 31, during the Niagara Music Collaborative, which will break temporarily at 9:30 p.m. for the always-popular fireworks show.

To close the festival on Monday, Aug. 1, Top 40 duo Silver Act will get things started, followed by Beatles tribute band, The Carvernes.

Throughout this year's festival entertainment will once again be provided for youth at a special stage set in Seaway Park. More details on youth stage performances will be announced.

Badaway credited the city's community services and special events teams for all their efforts in putting not only the lineups but also the events themselves together.

Organizers work year-round, he said, to ensure the festival gets off to a "hitch." He also thanked the many community partners and volunteers that make the events possible. For more information about the upcoming festivals, visit www.portcolborne.ca.

mfirth@wellandtribune.ca

portraits

■ MARINE TRANSPORT: Third vessel this year loads up at Southpier Terminal

Grain elevator again a local draw for shippers

DAVE JOHNSON
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE

Steve Lannan said 6,800 tonnes of corn harvested last year from farms across Niagara and beyond were loaded onto a Lower Lakes Towing vessel last week at Southpier Terminals.

It was the third time this year a ship has docked at the terminal, formerly Goderich Elevators, to take on a load of corn, Lannan, manager Joe Lannan said.

He said the corn being loaded on the *Kaministiquia* was delivered to the terminal by transport trucks after it was harvested last year from farms within an 80-kilometre radius.

"The ship is headed to Goderich (Ont.) to be topped off and then it will head north and then it will be heading to Sorel (Que.)," said Lannan.

The corn will be shipped overseas from Quebec and whether it is sent across the Atlantic depends on its quality, he added.

In addition to storing corn at the elevator, which was originally built by the

Canadian government 102 years ago, wheat, soybeans, mustard seed, rye and other goods can be found.

It has a capacity to hold 81,000 metric tonnes.

Lannan said there are 267 bins inside the elevator, which was purchased by Goderich Elevators in 1986, in which the various items can be stored.

Goderich Elevators changed its name to Southpier Terminals this past year to reflect its grain storage facilities in Goderich and the company provides storage, conditioning, processing and the transfer of grains and other goods around the world.

The elevator in Port Colborne sits at the end of King St. on the west side of the pier across from ADM grain elevators and just west of the Welland Canal. Ships must enter the canal and make a turn around the end of the elevator to get into position to load or unload and can be watched from H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park and Sugarloaf Harbour Marina.

The *Kaministiquia* left Port Colborne late in the day.



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

The *Kaministiquia*, a Lower Lakes Towing vessel, sits at Southpier Terminal in Port Colborne recently taking on 6,800 tonnes of corn. It was the third ship of the season to take on a load at the 102-year-old storage facility.



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photos

Above, the Kaministiquia was the third ship of the season to take on a load at the 102-year-old Southpier Terminal in Port Colborne. At right, corn goes into the hold of the Kaministiquia at the storage facility. The ship took on a partial load of 6,800 tonnes of corn which was harvested last fall.



INPORT NEWS

Published by InPort News

Sun Media Corp.

228 East Main Street, Welland, Ontario, L3B 5P5
Tel: 905-732-2414 Fax: 905-732-3660

importwellandtribune.ca

Ken Koyama, publisher, general manager
Dave Johnson, InPort News senior reporter



ourview

Rewarding experience

Since 1877, the Fresh Air Fund has been giving youths from inner New York City a chance to see and experience things they might not otherwise ever have the chance to.

Now is the time for families in the area to start considering becoming a host to these children, said Nancy Savage, chairwoman of the Fresh Air Fund in Port Colborne-Wainfleet.

The program has seen more than 1.7 million New York City children from disadvantaged communities hosted in 13 states and southern Ontario. It gives these children a chance to go outside and play in a backyard without worry. Trips to such places as Niagara Falls, parks and Lake Erie, or even taking a vacation with the host family are not uncommon.

Children who have taken part in it can't believe how quiet the area is, how dark it is at night and the fact they can go outside and play in a backyard without worry. Trips to such places as Niagara Falls, parks and Lake Erie, or even taking a vacation with the host family are not uncommon.

Parents should not take for granted, but for a child from New York City it's all new.

While the visit might only be a week or two, it does leave a lasting impact on some children as they'll come back years later with their own families to visit their former hosts.

It's a worthwhile program and one we'd encourage more people to consider.

Lineups announced

Lineups for both Flavours of Niagara Food, Wine and Music Festival, and Canal Days Marine Heritage Festival were announced last week and that means summer is on its way.

While people enjoy great food from a variety of vendors at Flavours, they'll be able to see the sounds of bands like Jonesy, More Bad News and the Horns from Hell, Daylight for Deadeyes, and Steve Burnside with the Marquis. Food is always better with great music and both are sure to attract thousands to I.H.I. Knoll Lakeview Park for the July 1st long weekend.

After Flavours wraps up, Canal Days will arrive in Port Colborne very quickly.

While the focus will be about the city's marine heritage, it always manages to bring some top bands to help draw more people to Port Colborne. This year Canadian heavy metal band Helix and Scottish hard rock band Nazareth kick off the festival on the Market Square stage on Friday night.

On Saturday Canadian rock band Bleeker Ridge and indie rockers White Toad take to the stage and will be followed by Juno award-winning hitmakers Finger Eleven.

The stage will be filled with local artists on the Sunday, during the Niagara Music Collaborative, which will break temporarily at 9:30 p.m. for the popular fireworks show. To close the festival on Monday, Top 40 duo Sister Act will get the crowd dancing, followed by Beatles tribute band, The Carvernes.

I've been thinking

FR. DAVID GRAHAM SCOTT
St. Ignatius of Antioch Orthodox Church

Many folk hold the opinion that religion and politics shouldn't mix. I can agree with this opinion in one respect: the Church should not be involved in party politics. Most churches and most clergy would agree with this.

However, there is the fact that our Canadian Constitution states that Canada is founded upon principles that recognize the supremacy of God and the rule of law. The supremacy of God underlies the truth that there are moral and universal laws and rights which cannot rightly be changed at the whim of a legislature or a parliament.

Moreover Pierre Trudeau's revision of the national anthem includes the prayer, "God keep our land glorious and free." I think Trudeau was a very secular man, and yet his Constitution and Parliament's revision of the national anthem show that we should not ignore God in our national life.

Obviously we cannot apply the Church's canon law to secular law. Church law concerns those who have freely chosen to follow Christ in faith and cannot be compelled. Secular law allows no such choice; we have to obey the laws of the land or face the penalties.

The trouble comes when natural and

readers' views

Wind projects blowing smoke

Green Act vital to Welland economy? If individual homeowners wish to install small wind turbines or solar panel arrays on their own land with only their own money then why shouldn't they? They may reduce their energy needs from the grid and so may reduce their hydro bills.

Whether small individual projects are actually economically viable or not is something the already existing wind and solar industries have never proved. They haven't had to as the Feed-in Tariff program (FIT) Green Energy, a part of this alleged "vital" Green Energy Act, guarantees profits to these individuals by paying from 400% to 800% more per kWh than the normal daily market price for energy. Nice profit if you can get it from the ever-rising taxes of your neighbours.

On the other hand, very little profit-making spinoff, again at the expense of every taxpayer and neighbour? You set up a solar array, buy a set of cheap floodlights and shine them on your solar panels. Bingo! You pay the cheapest hydro rate to shine the floodlights on

universal laws and rights that come from God are ignored and contradicted by legislation. Then man-made laws tend to reduce our God-given freedom of conscience and religion to our own private thoughts.

When the Judeo-Christian tradition is rejected by our legislators and courts, then the resulting ethical vacuum is soon filled by ideologies that seriously limit individual freedom.

Take, for example, the Martin Government's championing of same-sex marriage. Commentators say that nothing much has changed by the passing of a law allegedly extending equal benefits to homosexuals. But what has changed is that the Ontario Ministry of Education has now adopted the same policies that require teaching our children from kindergarten to high school that homosexuality is normal and good.

But the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights states explicitly, "Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children" (Article 26, 3). The McGuinty ministry of education is ignoring this prior right by propagandizing an atheist, hedonistic and hedonistic ideology on our children.

A recent conference in Rome noted that liberal democracies are "immersed in what we might call the paradox of secularism: the more our secular post-

metaphysical, post-religious reason aims to be inclusive, the more it becomes intolerant."

The conference also noted that "one of the principal ways in which religious liberty is violated is by constraining it so narrowly as to confine it to the private sphere."

Bishop Robert Barron, US cardinal and also public, said that his disciples are salt of the earth and the light of the world, and we should not hide the light under a bushel basket (Matthew 5:13-16). He also said that the kingdom of heaven is like leaven or yeast (1:33).

Christ told us to pray in our closet. But he did not tell us to hide our faith in the closet. On the contrary, he said, "Whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this assembly, let him be ashamed of his Son of Man also will be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels" (Mark 8:30).

When any political party or all of them advocate and pass legislation or regulations contrary to the natural and universal laws and rights that come from God, then everyone, including the Church, synagogue and mosque, has every right to speak out and to work for better laws and regulations.

The three religious general and Christians in particular are required to get involved in advocating political policy that is in accordance with natural law, no matter what their political party may be.

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If the best Tim Hudak can promise is to cancel the Samsung contract while allowing existing FIT contracts to continue, he is doing little more than allowing the insanity that is the fallacy of green energy to ensure the economic collapse of the already failing Ontario economy, whether it be under Liberal, Conservative or NDP.

But at least when his term is finished, should he be successful at the next election, he will always vote him out for his incompetence.

Welland hydro general manager Ross Peevee, however, has no such worries. When the alternative energy industries that he claims are vital for Niagara have failed, as they have in Denmark, Holland, Germany, Portugal, Spain, the United

Kingdom and others, he will still take home his generous salary and benefits, all paid for by the taxpayer. He'll likely be one of a decreasing number of Ontarians still able to pay their ever-increasing hydro bills.

Experience worldwide is showing that industrial wind and solar projects, totally dependent on unrealistic and huge tax subsidies, have failed wherever they have been tried.

The "paper" factories, jobs and "green" economy are failures. In all the countries named above, and more, the promise of new factories, green jobs and a sustainable future have collapsed. Why else do you think there are so many European countries foisting their alternative energy on Canada and particularly Ontario?

Because they have failed in Europe. As the Spanish minister of alternative energy has said, "We are here to find others to find other governments willing to spend their tax dollars on our alternative energy industries in order to save them."

Spain will be next to ask the European Union for a bailout.

Andrew Watts
Wainfleet

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■ REGIONAL COUNCIL

New regional rep interested in results, not rhetoric

DAVID BARRICK
Niagara Region Council

It is a sincere pleasure and honour for me to represent you at Niagara Regional Council. It has been about six months since you have elected me to office and, through new ideas and new leadership, much has been accomplished.

I believe residents of Port Colborne expect and deserve tangible results, not rhetoric. That's why I'd like to thank the *Import News* for allowing me the opportunity to give you an update on some of those results.

During the municipal campaign last fall, I've heard from you several major themes/issues where you

expected results:

• Accountability: One of the first items of business was to reverse the public delegations ban that was unanimously passed just prior to the last election. After months of working with other regional councillors and the regional clerk, I assisted in creating and passing Bill 49, which amends the regional bylaw, to again allow the public to appear at full regional council meetings. I also have requested an increase in recorded votes, so individual councillors can be held to account for their decisions.

• Budget/respect tax dollars: I've heard loud and clear that residents expect more efficient government

spending to lessen their tax burden. I work on what I, and several other regional councillors, pushed for and were able to achieve a 1.37% tax reduction, saving property taxpayers an average of \$20 off the region's portion of their tax bill. To those who would have rather seen that money be spent toward increased services, remember that the region already has more than \$410 million in investments and reserves of your money. Enough is enough, it's time to stop tax increases and start giving back to senior's living on fixed incomes, young families and job creators.

• Health care: I have brought a fresh approach to this issue which has

re-established open and positive lines of communication with our health care partners — Niagara Health System, Ministry of Health). Last week, I met with the deputy minister of health and long-term care and, after waiting almost four years, work is now being done to assist in securing the much-needed funding for the Port Colborne Urgent Care Centre (UC) expansion. You can rest assured that I will continue to work with our health-care partners to increase the services offered

at our hospital.

• Water/sewer billing: From 2007-10 Port Colborne residents accumulated a significant debt to the region. Welland and Niagara Falls have also overpaid. Together, we are now working on a number of fronts to tackle this inequity. 1) Move forward with a fiscal service review to determine if there will be cost savings for us as a water/sewer provider, region or utility, rather than the current two (city and region).

See COUNCIL | page 6

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COUNCIL

Returns should come from reserves

FROM PAGE 5

2) Until that study is completed, Mayor Bill Shantz of Welland, with my support, has proposed an annual year-end reconciliation to ensure a stop to future overpayments. 3) That each municipality that has overpaid from 2007-10 receive a one-time payment from reserves for compensation to residents.

I'd like to thank Port Colborne residents for placing their faith in me as together we resolve many of the issues affecting our city. I will continue to work hard on our behalf to continue to deliver tangible results.

David.Barrick@niagararegion.ca

■ HIGHWAY: Badaway a supporter of corridor

Minister eyes mini mid-pen alternative

MATTHEW VAN DONGEN
QMI AGENCY

S.T. CATHARINES — Transportation Minister Kathleen Wynne is reved up about the idea of a mini mid-peninsula highway.

Not the full, 130-kilometre superhighway the former provincial Tory government proposed between Fort Erie through south Niagara and into north Burlington. The current Liberal government vowed this spring to park that plan for at least the next 20 years.

But Wynne is "very interested" in Niagara Region's latest highway compromise: an east-west, 400-series corridor connecting the south end of the QEW near Fort Erie with a recently widened Hwy. 406 near Welland.

"That's the kind of solution, on a smaller scale, that we can look at," Wynne said in an interview last week, a day after competing groups of mid-pen fans and detractors showed up on her Queen's Park doorstep. "I see that as more of a short-term plan ...

than the whole road."

It's not yet clear, however, what "short term" means.

Niagara Region has started an environmental assessment of possible east-west routes for a highway connection between Fort Erie and Hwy. 406.

Wynne's staff said Tuesday the province expects to "take over" that EA, and any associated studies. But that won't happen until the ongoing Niagara to GTA corridor planning and environmental study is finalized. The latest draft of that study, which has been underway for



Wynne



Badaway

six years and counting, came in this spring, but there is no timeline for a final draft, said Kelly Baker, a spokeswoman for Wynne.

The entire mid-pen highway nearly got the green light in 2001 when then-premier Mike Harris announced his support for the controversial southern tier highway. A new Liberal government subsequently ordered a new environmental assessment of the entire Niagara to Greater Toronto Area corridor. That study, still in draft form seven years later, suggests the full mid-pen highway isn't needed until 2031 at the earliest.

But with an election looming in October, Conservative Opposition Leader Tim Hudak has announced he wants to put the pedal to the metal on the long-delayed highway, calling it a vital artery for tourism, trade and investment.

Wynne accused Hudak Tuesday of "oversimplifying" a decision that has a wide array of potential economic and environmental

consequences.

"It's always my position that we don't want to use up sensitive land if we don't have to," she said Tuesday, referring to the possible route of a superhighway through farmland from Welland to Ancaster.

Wynne acknowledged the highway is "contentious" and said the province understands the economic goals of southern tier municipalities, and the "congestion problems" on the QEW.

But she argued the province is looking for a "balanced" solution to those problems with a widened QEW, ongoing improvements to Hwy. 406 and the new Burlington to Niagara GO Bus.

Down the road, she said permanent commuter GO Rail service to the peninsula remains an option, although it hasn't gotten far beyond tomorrow. It's an important, since local politicians can't seem to agree on whether the full mid-peninsula corridor is a good idea.

The region is hoping the province will take over the east-west corridor project, regional transportation director Joe Cousins said, noting the region has spent about \$250,000 on preliminary studies.

Port Colborne Mayor Jim DiDio said he won't support the full superhighway, while St. Catharines Mayor Brian Palaszuk has said he wants to focus on "realistic" goals like expanding Hwy. 406 and GO Rail service.

"It's when she says short-term plan, I hope that means three to five years," said Badaway, who hopes to meet with MTO officials today as part of Niagara in Toronto Week. "I'm saying, let's get this project started immediately."

The mayor is hoping any plan will include a section of a short east-west highway link will include a further extension of a four-lane Hwy. 406 towards Port Colborne.

Badaway added he's confident regional politicians "are all on the same page" about the request for a QEW to Hwy. 406 highway link.

It's an important, since local politicians can't seem to agree on whether the full mid-peninsula corridor is a good idea.

Niagara Falls Mayor Jim DiDio, for example, has said he won't support the full superhighway, while St. Catharines Mayor Brian Palaszuk has said he wants to focus on "realistic" goals like expanding Hwy. 406 and GO Rail service.

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■ BASKETBALL

Blue Bears host camp

LINDSEY RIEDKE
For Port News

PORT COLBORNE — Other than teaching English to students at Port Colborne High School, John Rao coaches basketball for the novice boys travel team and the senior boys' youth travel teams for Port Colborne.

For the summer, he has decided to organize Blue Bears Basketball Camp at Port High. Boys and girls aged seven to 14 are welcome to attend the camp which will run from 9 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Aug. 8-12.

"I wanted to provide fun, challenging and educational basketball experiences. There will be instruction, competitions and games to address the age and maturity of the players.

Qualified and certified coaches will be supervising and running the camp.

During the camp, the players will learn the fundamentals and will participate in some games and challenges that will build both individual and team skills. Challenges include foul shooting, shooting and 3-point shot contests. "Our goal is for the player will leave the camp at the end of the week with the tools to become a better basketball player and fond memories of a positive, fun-filled week," Rao said.

People interested in the Blue Bears Basketball Camp can contact Rao at 905-835-1186, ext. 64245, by fax at 905-835-1085 or by e-mail at john.rao@dsbn.edu.on.ca.

ALONG THE LAKESHORE

PORT COLBORNE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Do you have an E-Reader or MP3 Player? Learn how to download free ebooks and audiobooks from the Port Colborne Library website. Sign up for a free demonstration Tuesday, June 21, 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Call 905-834-6512 or drop in at 310 King Street. Check us out at www.portcolbornelibrary.org.

Father's Day Craft with Stacey, make a birdfeeder and special card for Dad, Thursday, June 16th at 4 to 4:45 p.m. For ages 4 to 12. Cost \$4.00. Please pre-register at the Library.

Continued on page 8

Do You Have High Cholesterol ?

According to Health Canada, cardiovascular diseases are the leading cause of death in Canada. Several risk factors may lead to heart disease, but one of the highest profile risk factors is high blood cholesterol.

Cholesterol is an important substance -- but it has been proven that having too much cholesterol in the bloodstream can contribute to the progressive narrowing of the arteries. If you can effectively manage your cholesterol, it can help you to maintain a healthier cardiovascular system.

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ALONG THE LAKESHORE**NOTICE****RE-SCHEDULING DATE FOR
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE/COUNCIL MEETING**

Please be advised that the regularly scheduled Committee of the Whole/Council meeting of Tuesday, May 24th, 2011, has been re-scheduled to Tuesday, May 31st, 2011 at 6:30 p.m., Council Chambers, 3rd floor, City Hall, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne.

This notice is given in compliance with By-law 4314/150/02.

Ashley Grigg
City Clerk

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Punch Cards only. Call Heather
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DOG BREEDS: Terriers have long been hunters

Small terriers are big on courage

Terriers got their name from the Latin word "terra" or "earth." Their main job was to hunt for the earth for their prey.

The terriers chased rats, mice and later foxes. Once they found the hole or lair of their prey, members of this breed of dog would dig them out.

Most terriers have wiry hair with long beards and long eyebrows. This feature saved many a terrier from being badly bitten by sharp rodent teeth as they pulled their prey out of the hole.

The terriers have always been composed of rough and ready all-purpose breeds: descendants of early keepers, scrappy, intelligent and possessing great courage within a small size.

Great Britain is where the terriers originated. Back 1,000 years ago only working-class people and peasants were allowed to own terriers. These dogs were needed in the towns and villages and farms as rodents were a huge problem for the people.

Terriers came in all colours and shapes but were all just called terriers if they were good at killing rats. It was much later that terriers of the same size, shape and colour were given a specific terrier name. Most of them were named for the region or



Sandie Bingley
TSA
DOG'S LIFE

country where they were located in Britain. For example, the Scottish terrier comes from Scotland; the Lakeland terrier was located in Ireland; the Welsh terrier lived in Wales and the Lakeland terrier was developed in the Lakeland region.

At that time the royals and the rich had their own breeds of dogs that the common folks were not allowed to own. So it would not look good for the people of class to own a "common" terrier.

But it didn't take long for the rich gentlemen to realize that they needed terriers at the end of the hunt to dig out the foxes that the hounds had chased into their ground dens. The terriers were carried in baskets on horseback during the fox hunt then they were turned loose to dig out the fox. Thus the terriers moved up in status as the royals had a purpose for them.

Even today no matter how trimmed and groomed the terriers are, they can still be scrappy little hunters with great courage.

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FRESH AIR FUND: Taking in children from New York City

Hosting kids a rewarding experience for families

DAVE JOHNSON
InPort News Staff

PORL COLBORNE — Since 1877, the Fresh Air Fund has

been giving youths from inner New York City a chance to see and experience things they might not otherwise ever have the chance to.

Now is the time for families in the area to start considering becoming a host to these children, said Nancy Salvage, chairwoman of the Fresh Air Fund in

Port Colborne-Wainfleet. "The children will be coming for one-and two-week trips in July and August and anyone who is interested in becoming

a host family needs to contact me."

Salvage said host families need to go through an interview process before they are accepted.

"There aren't a lot of requirements. They just have to be willing to open their home to a child for one or two weeks and make the child part of the family."

Salvage, who has hosted children the past four years, said so far eight families who have hosted in the past have contacted her and seven new families have signed on to take part in the program. The program has seen more than 1.7 million New York City children from disadvantaged communities hosted in 13 states and southern Ontario.

Word-of-mouth and very positive feedback from participants have helped draw in the new families and reassure them it is a great program, Salvage said.

"I've had three children stay with me and I wish I would have started this earlier. It's a wonderful program and very rewarding."

It's not just families that can apply to the program. Salvage said people without their own young children, but who have nieces, nephews, a lot of neighbourhood children nearby or grandchildren can be part of the program.



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Nancy Salvage, chair of the Fresh Air Fund in Port Colborne-Wainfleet, said now is the time for families in the area to start considering becoming a host to inner city youth from New York City.

Salvage said some of the visiting children can't believe how quiet the area is, how dark it is at night and the fact they can go outside and play in a backyard. Trips to such places as Niagara Falls, parks and Lake Erie are all new to the children.

"These are the things we take for granted."

Some families, she added, will even take the children on vacation with them.

It's not like having a guest in the home, the children become part of the family. Salvage said many stay in contact with their hosts after the trip is over.

"It's not just a two-week friendship. When they call you and tell you things that are happening in their lives it's nice. That they want to call you and tell you things... it's a nice feeling."

She said there have been New York City children who have taken part in the program that have come back the next year with their families to their hosts, to visit their former hosts.

Anyone who wants to be part of the Fresh Air Fund program can contact Salvage at 905-833-0442 or e-mail nancy.salvage@sympatico.ca.



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■ **WAINFLEET:** Roads renamed to help emergency services



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

The Township of Wainfleet has changed the name of Townline Rd. to Port Colborne Wainfleet Townline Rd.

Townline Rd. name change 'absolutely ridiculous'

MARYANNE FIRTH
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — It might take residents a little longer to jot down their address if a proposed street name change is approved.

The Township of Wainfleet approved a municipal addressing policy in 2010 that had staff identifying municipal and private roads that require a name change.

Included in roads approved for a name change by Wainfleet council was Townline Rd., which was renamed Port Colborne Wainfleet Townline Rd.

N. from Forks Rd. and Port Colborne Wainfleet Townline Rd. S. from Hwy. 3. While Wainfleet portions of the road will have had their name changed, the portion abutting the City of Port Colborne remains as Townline Rd.

The city has received requests from residents to change Port Colborne's portion of the roadway to maintain consistency with the municipalities' names. Residents have also been experiencing disruption in their mail service delivery because of the change.

Port Colborne Ward 3

Coun. Bea Kenny recently said she has a big problem with the lengthy name that has been proposed.

She was approached by a resident who raised concerns that the proposed name change would mean addresses would no longer fit on a passport or birth certificate application, where the limit is 30 characters. It also would likely have a hard time squaring in on a standard driver's licence, Kenny added. "That's a 47-character maximum."

Before the street's name is changed these issues need to be considered, Kenny told

city council Monday night, adding it will affect residents "greatly."

Unfortunately, the township never got a hold of us," said Mayor Vance Badaway about the renaming process. Wainfleet was not required to notify the city.

Badaway suggested the matter be referred back to city staff so Wainfleet officials can be brought in on the matter and provide public input can be sought.

"This is absolutely ridiculous," he said of the proposed name, adding discussion will be had to see if the name can be shortened.

■ **LAKESHORE:** Boil water advisory area affected

Partial freeze for lakeshore projects

DAVE JOHNSON
InPort News Staff

Country border

While township council was supportive of Konc's motion, the wording of part of it left Ald. Ted Hessels with some concerns. Hessels said he doesn't want to hold up a project that needs to be built, or a proper lot size coverage to carry out expansions, new builds, renovations or repairs or those people who followed all zoning bylaw rules.

Kong said a similar bylaw was put in place back in 2006 when the first issue arose and no one objected to it at the time.

Chief administrative officer Scott Lucy said the interim bylaw is only a temporary measure and hopes to have the find, repair, replace program in place as soon as possible.

"We think we have everything in place by spring of next year, hopefully earlier," he said, adding that if the program were in place the interim bylaw would disappear.



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As it would be unfair to our paying customers for Bell to continue to offer the station without a fair agreement between our two companies, we have asked it to suspend broadcasting the signal. It should be noted that Sun News is seeking lower subscription fees than CTV News Channel, the Business News Network and CP24. As Bell owns these channels, it obviously has an undue advantage.

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NOTICE

PROPERTY OWNERS DESTROY NOXIOUS WEEDS

NOTICE is hereby given to all persons in possession of land, in accordance with the Weed Control Act, R.S.O. 1990 Chapter W.5, Sections 3, 16 and 23 that unless noxious weeds growing on their lands within the Municipality of the City of Port Colborne are destroyed by the date of **JUNE 1, 2011** and throughout the season, the Municipality may enter upon the said lands and have the weed destroyed.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that the expenses incurred by the Municipality shall be deemed to be taxes and shall be added to the Tax Collector's Roll against the respective parcels concerned and collected in the same manner and with the same priorities as municipal taxes.

NOXIOUS WEEDS

1. Bull Thistle	13. Poison Hemlock
2. Canada Thistle	14. Poison Ivy
3. Colts-Foot	15. Proso Millet
4. Common Barberry	16. Ragweed
5. Cypress Spurge	17. Russian Knapweed
6. Dodder	18. Russian Thistle
7. European Buckthorn	19. Scotch Thistle
8. Goat's Beard	20. Sow Thistle, perennial, annual
9. Johnson Grass	21. Tuberous Vetchling
10. Leafy Spurge	22. Wild Carrot
11. Milkweed	23. Wild Rocket
12. Nodding Thistle	

PLEASE NOTE

DANDELIONS AND GOLDENROD ARE NOT CONSIDERED NOXIOUS WEEDS IN URBAN AREAS

Sections 3, 13, 16, 18 and 23 of the Weed Control Act do not apply to noxious weeds or weed seeds that are far enough away from any land used for agricultural or horticultural purposes as they do not interfere with that use.

However, The City of Port Colborne By-law No. 4519/50/04, which also regulates grasses/weeds, which applies to all properties within the City and are therefore requested to be in compliance with the Maintenance of Grasses and Weeds By-law by June 1st and throughout the season.

Dan Aquilina
Director Planning & Development

MCHAPPY DAY: Familiar faces chip in behind the counter



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photos

Above, Wainfleet Aid. Betty Konc works the drive-thru window at McDonald's in Port Colborne on Wednesday during McHappy Day. Funds raised throughout the day will go toward Ronald McDonald House in Hamilton and Niagara Region Children's Safety Village in Welland. At left, Wainfleet Mayor April Jeffs was among the business owners, politicians and volunteers helping behind the counter selling paper boots to customers.

MINOR HOCKEY: City council commands Sailors on season



MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo

The Port Colborne Scotiabank Bantam B Sailors were honoured at the April 26 city council meeting after scoring the city's first Ontario Minor Hockey Association championship since 1957. Players, along with coaching staff, were honoured with a certificate from the city for their efforts this season, which yielded the coveted A.A. Morrison Trophy on March 26. Pictured from left are Mayor Vance Badaway, team captain Phil Stratton and head coach Tim Fretz.

■ SHERKSTON SHORES: Sherkston Scuba opens

Diving into business

DAVE JOHNSON
InPort News Staff

POR T COLBORNE — Sherkston Scuba has opened its doors to Niagara's diving community.

Thursday, Mayor Vance Badaway and Regional Coun. David Barrick helped the opening of Sherkston Scuba. Sherkston staff open the new dive shop, which sits just outside the main gates of the resort on Empie Rd.

Sherkston Shores general manager John O'Brien said it's a full-service dive shop offering qualified open water dives, pool dives, and open water dives. Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) certification, equipment rentals and a repair centre. It will

soon have its own compressor to refill tanks as well.

"This is a year-round dive shop that will be open seven days a week," O'Brien said.

He said when he first came to Sherkston Shores five years ago, there were divers using the quarry, but he didn't realize the number of people in the area that dove.

Leah Jones, head dive instructor, said the quarry at Sherkston holds an old pump house and trains from where it was a working quarry and people will be able to see those things when they dive them.

Jones also said some dive platforms will be built underwater.

To help divers get into the water easier, she said entry points have been created

along with a deck area and washrooms for divers.

"I've been diving for seven years now and been an instructor for three years. I worked in Mexico for a year, the Cayman Islands for six months and locally as well."

Jones said the waters of the quarry are a bit colder than what she is used to, so a wetsuit presser will be available.

O'Brien said on the counter arrives at the dive shop, it will allow Sherkston Shores to become a full PADI resort. Among other things, this means the result will be able to host large group dives and people will be able to stay right at Sherkston.

Badaway said the opening of the dive shop recognizes the hidden jewel Port Colborne has in Lake Erie and the

number of wrecks people can dive on in the area.

"It's amazing what's out there," he said.

Badaway said people seem to have more time to dive these days and Sherkston Scuba can

help draw them into the area.

"Here at Sherkston, people can be taught (to dive) ... and with their assets, the pool and the quarry, I think it's great for the area and just adds to us being a waterfront

community."

The dive shop is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and on Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Fridays and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

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DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Sherkston Scuba opened its doors to the scuba-diving community on Thursday. Helping open the doors, from left: Leah Jones, head dive instructor; Justin Allsopp, operations manager; John O'Brien, Sherkston Shores general manager; Mayor Vance Badaway; Regional Coun. David Barrick; and Carl Jones, dive shop manager. The dive shop is located right in front of Sherkston Shores main gates.

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adds to us being a waterfront

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Proposed By-law Amendment
Development Charges By-law 4574/105/04

PURPOSE

A public meeting held pursuant to the provisions of Section 12 of the Development Charges Act, R.S.O., 1990 is being held to inform the public and Council of an amendment to the City of Port Colborne Development Charges By-law for lands within the City of Port Colborne.

The purpose and effect of the amendment is to amend Section 3.10 of By-law 5354/108/09, being a By-law to Impose Development Charges for the City of Port Colborne, by adding an additional clause which would partially exempt the payable development charges by up to 70% for development on Brownfield properties which have an approved Application and Agreement under the Brownfield Rehabilitation Grant Program, subject to the requirements of the Brownfield Community Improvement Plan.

PUBLIC MEETING

Date: June 13, 2011

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: City Hall Council Chambers, 3rd Floor
66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne

HAVE YOUR SAY

Input on this proposed By-law Amendment is welcomed and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the public meeting or by providing written comments to the City. Please note that unless you provide input via one of these means, you may not be able to appeal the decision of Council at a later date.

WRITTEN SUBMISSION

To provide input in writing or to request personal notification of a decision of Council, please send correspondence c/o City Clerk, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne Ontario, L3K 3C8.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information, please contact Lindsay Richardson, Community/Policy Planner at 905-835-2901 ext 129 or via email at lindsayrichardson@portcolborne.ca. Copies of the proposed changes are available for review at City Hall, Planning and Development Department, located on the 2nd floor, 66 Charlotte Street Port Colborne, or can be found on the City's website at www.portcolborne.ca.

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■ **FOOTBALL:** Lakeshore grad uses football as teaching tool

Eskimos kicker splits uprights for education

BRAD PETERS
QMI Agency

NIAGARA FALLS — Even when CFL pros are playing in a pickup game, they take their job very seriously.

"My play has been damaging my team, so I'll contribute to the team's success in other ways," Winnipeg Blue Bombers offensive lineman Chris Greaves said before bursting into a hearty laugh as a receiver less than half his height zipped past him along the sideline.

Greaves was among a handful of Canadian Football League players who were in Fort Erie last week at Our Lady of Victory Catholic School at the request of Edmonton Eskimos kicker Derek Schiavone. During the off-season, the Lakeshore Catholic High School graduate has been pursuing a teaching degree and he wanted to do his final instructional placement at his former elementary school.

"This is one of the last requirements I have to complete for my teaching certificate. I wanted to do something special for the school and the community for all they've given to me," said Schiavone, who now lives in Port Colborne during the off-season.

At Our Lady of Victory Schiavone began putting together a program that combines his love of football with education. He started working the phone lines to get some of his high-profile football friends to come out for a "Pros versus Joes" game (with the Joe being the school's teaching staff).

Before kickoff, Schiavone and some of the other athletes talked to the students about the need for education, regardless of what career the young students have in mind.

"We (gave) the students a little speech about the importance of edu-



BRAD PETERS QMI Agency

Our Lady of Victory Catholic School student teacher and Edmonton Eskimos kicker Derek Schiavone arranged a Pros vs. Joes game with CFL players and students taking on March 19 at the Fort Erie school. Pictured, in front row, from left, are students Austin, John, Brendan, Dylan, Naulucci, back row: CFLeers John, Noel, Prefontaine, Tyler Scott, Chad Remple, Chris Greaves and Schiavone.

cation, especially if they are sports-minded," the one-time Gators kicker said. "I (told) them that if it weren't for the good grades I got to get into university, I never would have been able to make it to the CFL."

Joining Schiavone and Greaves were the Toronto Argonauts' Noel Prefontaine and Chad Remple, the Eskimos' Tyler Scott and upcoming draft favourite John Surla.

Dylan Naulucci was one of three lucky students who earned a spot on the press team and got to stand on the sidelines during a brief substitution, he said he was having a great time playing football with the CFLers.

"The speeches were really good," he said. "They told us about how when they were growing up, how they needed to be paying attention at school and how it was important to them."

■ **OPOPORTUNISTIC FEEDERS:** Pets can be snatched up

Keep watch for coyotes: councillor

InPort News Staff

PORL COLBORNE — They may be fury, but they're not your friend.

Ward 4 Coun. Barbara Butters took time out of a recent council meeting to encourage residents in rural areas to be aware of it during the spring season.

Now that spring is underway, many coyotes have had their pups and will be taking their young "out on hunting trips," she said.

She advised residents to keep their pets indoors after dark and to ensure

their garbage and compost are properly secured.

"These animals are opportunistic feeders," she said, adding they "see something smaller than themselves as food."

She reminded the public that coyotes are wild animals and not domesticated dogs, and while attacks on humans are rare, caution should still be taken around them.

"We need to get along with these creatures and we need to be smart about it."

sports

■ SOCCER: Club says people may need help getting to fields

Remedy for parking headache being sought

MARYANNE FIRTH
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Sir John Colborne Youth Soccer Club is pitching for a "people mover."

The construction of a twin-pad arena and indoor pool will leave the club with less than half the parking spaces of past seasons, president Maria Lariccia told Port Colborne council recently. That means many spectators will have to park elsewhere and endure a seven-to-10-minute hike before settling in to watch the games, she said.

Lariccia asked council to consider providing a "people-mover transportation service" that would assist anyone with difficulties making the walk, such as seniors, to get to the soccer pitches.

Gary Makins, Port Colborne's manager of community services, said the club's executive members have met with municipal staff to explore different options. Discussion was had about staggering game times on weekends instead of having them back to back to allow for

turnover in the parking lot, he added.

Councillors were told it would cost the city \$1,460 to rent a six-passenger vehicle for one hour a day. Additionally, there would be \$2,900 to hire a student to operate the vehicle for the duration of the season, bringing the total to \$3,900, engineering and operations Ron Hanson said.

When asked by Ward 2 Coun. Angie Desmarais if the club could meet the city half way, club treasurer Barb Fontaine said the organization is not in a "financial position" to commit those funds.

Ward 3 Coun. Frank Danchi asked whether the club could provide a volunteer to help with the cost.

Fontaine said the club already has difficulty getting volunteers, making that possibility unlikely.

Questions and concerns arose about liability, monitoring and the lack of funds available in the city's budget.

Ward 1 Coun. Bill Steele asked that the issue be referred back to staff who can consult with the city's insurers and bring back a report at the Tuesday, May 31, council meeting.

■ RUGBY: Wasps swarm into the season



JOE CSEH InPort News Photo
Niagara Wasps rugby team president Scott Wade is pictured with his three children Camryn, 10, Carleigh, 2, and Caitlyn, 4, who is holding a rugby ball with Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badaway. Along with team director Bill Tyler, the group helped kick off the Wasps' 2011 season.



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■ SPORTS FACILITIES

Township painting lines for soccer club

DAVE JOHNSON
InPort News Staff

WAINFLEET — Township staff will paint lines on the soccer fields and complete work on a 12th pitch by next spring in an effort to help out Wainfleet Youth Soccer.

Youth soccer co-chairmen Sue Huizinga and Monique Jongma appeared

before township council Tuesday night seeking support for the organization.

"We've been operating since 1977, starting off with 40 children and we're now close to 400 children from five to 16 years old. We have four divisions with five to six teams in each division," Huizinga told council.

She said the league runs Tuesdays and Thursdays from mid-May until mid-August on the fields behind the arena with volunteers that help out.

"It's one location and one common time and families come out and enjoy games for the evening."

Huizinga said the league is now starting to face some challenges as it seeks to keep

rates low enough so children can still play.

"It's difficult to get children in the older divisions and pay for referees. We had to buy a line-painting machine and it cost us \$2,483.11 to paint lines on the fields last year."

She said overhead costs have increased as have rising recreation fees. Insurance, which used to be shared with

minor baseball, has increased as well. Portable washrooms on the fields that are farther away from the arena washrooms are now an additional cost to the league.

"The porta-potties were sponsored in the past, but the cost has now fallen on our shoulders."

Both women said Wainfleet Youth Soccer doesn't want

to increase the fees for players as they are already the lowest in Niagara and attract players from surrounding communities.

In response to questions from council, the pair said they have looked at additional fundraisers and attracting more sponsors to help the league, but still asked for any help council could provide.



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■ TOWNSHIP: Wainfleet stands to gain

ATV club pinning for trails

VICTORIA GRAY
InPort News Staff

WELLAND — Trying to get down and dirty in Niagara can be difficult.

Quad Niagara ATV club members like to "play" in the mud as a family activity, but it's illegal to ride an ATV on public roads or undeveloped trails.

"There are 7,000 registered ATVs in the Niagara region and right now, we have no place to play," club president Tracy-Lynn Bell-Volpatto said.

Since 2007 the club has been trying to convince all Niagara municipalities to allow the club to create and maintain legal trail systems on unassumed roadways.

Bell-Volpatto said Welland and Wainfleet stand to gain the most from legal ATV trails.

"They are sitting on a gold mine," she said, adding that

ATV enthusiasts from across Ontario go up north to use trails and Niagara is missing out on a huge piece of the tourist pie.

Greg Wuisman, director of operations for Wainfleet, said the township has hired consultants to make recommendations for maintaining new recreation plan and expects ATVs to be mentioned.

However, he doesn't know what kind of recommendations will be made.

"The consultants are listening to the ATV club very carefully and more importantly from citizens to determine what an appropriate for these things," he said.

Wuisman said the township has had complaints in the past about ATVs ruining farmers' fields, and the municipality is concerned about safety.

"The trails would cross public roadways, and how

would (ATV operators) go about crossing? Would they cause a danger to themselves and our regular flow of traffic?"

Bell-Volpatto, a registered trail warden, along with club members, would supervise and maintain all trails voluntarily. The club also ATV safety course and Ontario Federation of Trail Riders (OFTTR) training for children and adults.

"Wainfleet, Welland and Niagara Falls have all been very supportive of us and, hopefully, we'll be able to come up with a mutually beneficial agreement," she said.

Bell-Volpatto said the club was given private land to create the trail system it now operates on in Niagara Falls. The trail is registered with the OFTR, which offers insurance.

In order to get registration, a trail must have

appropriate signage (stop signs, sharp turn signs, exit signs, etc.) and be well marked.

Quad Niagara ATV tries as hard as it can to be environmentally friendly, Bell-Volpatto said. Its members build bridges over rivers, try to minimize back trails so sticks don't hit riders and they never ride at night so that animals have time to feed.

At the end of the day it's about kicking back and having fun, she said, but Quad Niagara ATV club wants to contribute to community and do their part for the environment. The club hosts charity rides and family days, including an Easter egg hunt.

"We feel like if we're able to have our trail system in every municipality, we can kick back at the municipalities (through charity)."

■ TERRY FOX RUN: Fifty-seven people took part

Group head shave sets Guinness record

DAVE JOHNSON
InPort News Staff

lines that had to be followed in order to set the record.

"We followed them, but I had overlooked something," she said, especially since it took months for the confirmation.

Mark Gosselin and Bob Saracino, then a regional councillor, were on hand as witnesses to the event, and there were photos and a video taken as well. A letter was sent off to Guinness containing all pertinent information.

Salvage said the Terry Fox Run is the only Terry Fox she is aware of that did the head shave as part of the event.

She said Terry's brother, Fred Fox, helped to set a record in 2010 as well as part of a two-day cycling event.

That was two Guinness records set last year at a Terry Fox event, she added.

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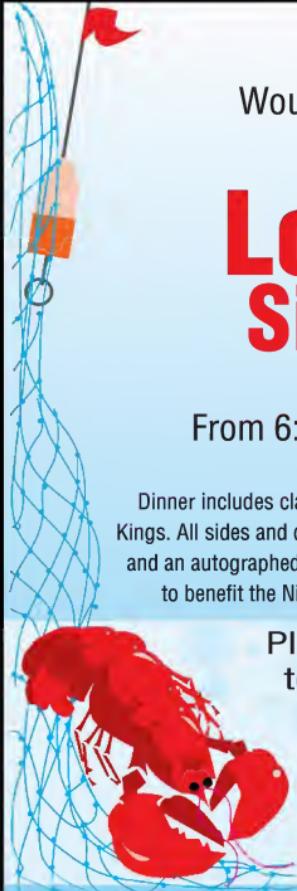


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Please contact Nikki Cordiner for tickets or
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